GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:387
ANSWERED ON:11.07.2014
EXPORT AND IMPORT OF MARINE PRODUCTS
Nayak Shri B.V.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum and value of marine products exported and imported during each of the last three years and the current year, country and product/item-wise;

(b) the share of India in the world in export of marine products along with the share of various States in the country`s export, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether member countries of European Union (EU) have imposed stringent restrictions on import of marine products from India, causing procedural and financial difficulties for exporters;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to safeguard interests of exporters in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) The quantum and value of marine products exported and imported during each of the last three years and the current year, country and product/item-wise is annexed (Annexure-I).

(b) As per the " Fishery and Aquaculture Statistics, 2012" issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the share of India in the world in export of marine products was 2.60%. State-wise / UT-wise export details are not available.

(c)& (d) The member countries of European Union (EU) have not imposed any stringent restrictions on import of marine products from India. However, there are few instances of rejecting consignment identified through Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) on the grounds of presence of banned chemicals and also due to presence of Antibiotics residues. Once the consignment is returned to India, the same is tested code-wise and all the satisfactory codes are allowed to export to non-EU countries, if the product meets the requirements of the importing country. However, the contaminated codes are not allowed to export to any country.

(e) The Government has introduced a number of Programs / Schemes for making seafood safe for consumers and also to reduce rejection of consignments viz; National Residue Control Plan (NRCP), Pre-Harvest Testing (PHT), training of technologists, implementing and enforcing HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points), educating the fishermen and pre-processing workers and assistance to laboratories. The issue of RASFF has been raised bilaterally with the European Union, during the EU-India Joint Working Group on agriculture and marine products and Indo- EU Joint Working group meeting on SPS/ TBT. The number of antibiotic rejection from EU has come down from Thirty eight (38) in the year 2008-09 to Four (4) in 2013-14.